DRAFT LETTER FOR MARIN COMMUNITY FUND

Dear

The Whole Earth landed in Gate 5 in 1973. Stewart Brand moved to Sausalito where he still lives. He featured articles on Marin topics like the battle over Waldo Point and sponsored Marin events like New Games and Whole Earth festivals. Subsequent editors Kevin Kelly (XX) and Howard Rheingold(Mill Valley) are Marinites. Arthur Okamura (Bolinas) designed the front and back cover of the first issue of the Coevolutionary Quarterly. Joan McIntyre (then of Bolinas) wrote of saving whales. Rick Fields (now of Fairfax) wrote one of the first articles on American Buddhism. The deepening of the connection to Marin was rapid. Lloyd Kahn (then and now Bolinas) started adding material of appropriate shelters and then went off to found Shelter Publications (Bolinas). Peter Warshall (Bolinas and now new editor of Whole Earth) joined the Whole Earth staff as Land, Water and Natural History editor, started the Bird Rescue during the Marin oil spill (1971), helped preserve Bolinas Lagoon, built the now world famous Bolinas zero discharge sewage treatment facility and constructed wetland (1973), served in local public office for eight years, helped negotiate leases that are now Commonweal and Niman-Schell Ranch in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, edited the 1976 Watershed issue (among our most popular) which featured items like a photo of the Sausalito watershed of the Whole Earth office, and spent years teaching and guiding local enivronmental projects in Marin.

Orville Schell (Bolinas), astronaut/resident Rusty Schweikart (Sausalito), Paul Hawken (Sausalito), the late Richard Nilsen, Huey Johnson (Mill Valley), Joanne Kyger (Bolinas poet), Peter Coyote (Mill Valley), Ilka Hartman (Bolinas photographer), Linda Connor (Mill Valley photographer), Sim van der Ryn (Sausalito), Sharyl Patton (videograhper and Commenweal, Bolinas), Dr. Eugene Schoenfield (then Pacific Sun contributor), Robert Creeley (then Bolinas poet), David Meltzer (then Bolinas poet), Gary Snyder (former Marinite) and Roshi Baker (then Green Gulch) have all contributed to the magazine.

Whole Earth has been centered in Marin County for a quarter of a century. It is perhaps the most widely associated cultural symbol of the County. We hope to solidify this cultural position by establishing the non-profit Whole Earth more explicitly as a Marin landmark. We hope to permanetly find a home in Marin, open our library to the public, center exhibits of the latest tools for enviro-hope at a center, start a training center for restoration and environmental care, and publish our magazine, catalog and books here. To do this, Whole Earth seeks a long-term relationship with the Marin Community Foundation.